

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7123–S7166

Measures Introduced: Twenty-six bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3080–3105, S. Res. 457, and S. Con. Res. 31.

Pages S7156–57

Measures Reported:

S. 2365, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to authorize urban Indian organizations to enter into arrangements for the sharing of medical services and facilities. (S. Rept. No. 116–180)

S. Res. 260, recognizing the importance of sustained United States leadership to accelerating global progress against maternal and child malnutrition and supporting the commitment of the United States Agency for International Development to global nutrition through the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble.

S. 482, to strengthen the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, to combat international cybercrime, and to impose additional sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 641, to update the map of, and modify the maximum acreage available for inclusion in, the Yucca House National Monument, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 774, to adjust the boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include the Rim of the Valley Corridor, with amendments.

S. 1262, to designate certain land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service in the State of Oregon as wilderness and national recreation areas, to withdraw certain land located in Curry County and Josephine County, Oregon, from all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws, location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and operation under the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, with amendments.

S. 1890, to provide for grants for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy improvements at public school facilities.

S. 2108, to amend section 6903 of title 31, United States Code, to provide for additional population tiers.

S. 2393, to promote a 21st century energy workforce, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2399, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to improve State loan eligibility for projects for innovative technology, with amendments.

S. 2660, to establish a grant program for wind energy research, development, and demonstration, with amendments.

Pages S7155–56

Measures Passed:

Naval Air Station Pensacola: Senate agreed to S. Res. 457, condemning the terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola on Friday, December 6, 2019, honoring the members of the Navy who lost their lives in the attack, and expressing support and prayers for all individuals affected by the attack.

Pages S7136–41

Supporting Veterans in STEM Careers Act: Senate passed S. 153, to promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Pages S7164–65

Vera C. Rubin Observatory Designation Act: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3196, to designate the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope as the “Vera C. Rubin Observatory”, and the bill was then passed.

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Richard G. Lugar Post Office: Senate passed S. 3105, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 456 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, as the “Richard G. Lugar Post Office”.

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2020 Census: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 31, recognizing the importance and significance of the 2020 Census and encouraging individuals, families,

and households across the United States to participate in the 2020 Census to ensure a complete and accurate count.
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Human Rights Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 450, recognizing the 71st anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the celebration of “Human Rights Day”, and the resolution was then agreed to.
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House Messages:

National Law Enforcement Museum Commemorative Coin Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, December 19, 2019, Senate resume consideration of the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 1865, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the opening of the National Law Enforcement Museum in the District of Columbia, with the time until 11 a.m., equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees; and that notwithstanding the provisions of Rules XXII, the motions to invoke cloture filed during the session of Tuesday, December 17, 2019, ripen at 11 a.m., on Thursday, December 19, 2019.
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Appointments:

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, upon the recommendation of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to the Public Law 105–292, as amended by Public Law 106–55, Public Law 107–228, and Public Law 112–75, appointed the following individual to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom: Rabbi Sharon A. Kleinbaum of New York vice Ahmed M. Khawaja of California.
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Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency with respect to serious human rights abuse and corruption that was originally declared in Executive Order 13818 of December 20, 2017; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–40)
Page S7154

Singhal Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Anuraag Singhal, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.
Pages S7136, S7141

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 76 yeas to 18 nays (Vote No. EX. 403), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.
Page S7136

Marston Nomination—Cloture: By 85 yeas to 7 nays (Vote No. EX. 404), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Karen Spencer Marston, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.
Pages S7141–42

Traynor Nomination—Cloture: By 51 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 405), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Daniel Mack Traynor, of North Dakota, to be United States District Judge for the District of North Dakota.
Page S7142

Dishman Nomination—Cloture: By 76 yeas to 17 nays (Vote No. EX. 406), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Jodi W. Dishman, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma.
Pages S7142–43

Gallagher Nomination—Cloture: By 82 yeas to 10 nays (Vote No. EX. 407), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of John M. Gallagher, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.
Page S7143

Jones II Nomination—Cloture: By 88 yeas to 5 nays (Vote No. EX. 408), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Bernard Maurice Jones II, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma.
Page S7143

Vyskocil Nomination—Cloture: By 89 yeas to 4 nays (Vote No. EX. 409), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Mary Kay Vyskocil, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.
Pages S7143–44

Riggs Nomination—Cloture: By 92 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. EX. 410), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Kea Whetzal Riggs, of New Mexico, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.
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Brown Nomination—Cloture: By 91 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. EX. 411), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Gary Richard Brown, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.
Pages S7144–45

Davis Nomination—Cloture: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Stephanie Dawkins

Davis, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

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During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 90 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. EX. 412), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

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Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that if cloture is invoked on the nominations filed on Monday, December 16, 2019, Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Democratic Leader.

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A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Robert J. Colville, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, and Lewis J. Liman, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, be withdrawn, and that the votes on confirmation of the nominations occur in the series of votes in the previous order, with all other provisions remaining in effect.

Page S7143

Vote Correction—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senator Hassan be permitted to change her vote from yea to nay on Vote No. 380 since it will not affect the outcome.

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Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 56 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. EX. 402), Matthew Walden McFarland, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

Pages S7126–36

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 55 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. EX. 401), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

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1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army. Page S7149

Messages from the House: Pages S7154–55

Measures Referred: Page S7155

Measures Read the First Time: Page S7155

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Additional Statements: Pages S7152–54

Record Votes: Twelve record votes were taken today. (Total—412) Pages S7128, S7135–36, S7142–45

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 8:07 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 19, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7166.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 482, to strengthen the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, to combat international cybercrime, and to impose additional sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

DOJ IG FISA REPORT

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act Report, focusing on methodology, scope, and findings, after receiving testimony from Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General, Department of Justice.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Jovita Carranza, of Illinois, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.